

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGON, D. C. - BUREAU, WASHINGTON, D. C.

FILE NO. 64-2000

REPORTER FRED E. COOK	DATE RECEIVED 11/27/50	SEARCHED FOR BUREAU INDEX 11/27/50	INDEXED BY VAC
TITLE VITOLD POKORNIA, alias, VICTOR POKORNIA, Victor Powell, Vito Pormak, Victor Pormak		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - R. 1A	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Declaration of Intention filed by Subject at Detroit, April 25, 1947. Subject resides 1207 East 10th, Detroit, and engaged as Controller of General Motors Corporation Truck and Coach Division, Parts Department, 3700 Venrock, Detroit. Subject alleged to have been enrolled July, 1939, from student University of Michigan, Lansing, due to support of Communist Party while editor of Communist newspaper during Russian occupation.

FOR COORDINATION WITH- FBI

DETAILS:

The title of this case is being varied changed to reflect the name VITOLD POKORNIA which appears in the Statement of Facts filed by Subject with the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Detroit, and the name VICTOR POKORNIA which is shown for the Subject in the records of the Newarkman Credit Bureau, Detroit.

M. S. BURGESS, Michigan

CITIZENSHIP

RONALD T. WILLIAMS, Investigator, Immigration and Naturalization Service, 3770 East Jefferson, Detroit, made available their files on the Subject which reflected that as VITOLD POKORNIA he filed a preliminary form for a Declaration of Intention on April 25, 1947, Number

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE:	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES		
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT		DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT DATE 2006		
(3) - Bureau (100-10826) 2 - New York (100-67241) 2 - Washington Field 3 - Detroit				

PROPERTY OF FBI—THIS CONFIDENTIAL REPORT AND ITS CONTENTS ARE LOANED TO YOU BY THE FBI AND ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED OUTSIDE OF
AGENCY TO WHICH LOANED.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-6000-1

FBI

(DS 66-1948)

0800-1-8419. This reflected that Subject arrived at New York as VITOLDS PORMANIS on February 18, 1947, on the S.S. Ernie Pyle and that the name on the Steamerhip Ticket was VITOLDS PORMANIS. He was born at Rihmuk, Russia, February 4, 1919; father, MARTIS PORMANIS; mother ALIA GOREV; last foreign address Beelingen a/Mosel, Germany; left the Port of Riga on the United States Lines First Class on Immigration Visa destined to AUGUST H. JACOBSON. Names of persons with whom Subject was acquainted on the ship were Mr. and Mrs. HERBERT TAURIN. In his Statement of Facts he declared that his occupation was that of a clerk, age 28, complexion dark, eyes hazel, nose Caucasian, hair black, height 5'8", weight 140 pounds, no visible scars or marks. He was issued Certificate of Arrival 0800-1-8419 as VITOLDS PORMANIS, May 14, 1947.

Subject's wife, GAIDA PORMANIS, also filed her preliminary form for a Declaration of Intention on April 25, 1947, Number 0800-1-8418. She was born at Riga, Latvia, February 26, 1921; father, PIETER MARKOVICS; mother, WILLIJ LUKOTKIS; maiden name GAIDA KAMKAVICS; last foreign residence Beelingen a/Mosel, Germany; emigrated from Riga, Latvia, on the United States Lines First Class on Immigration Visa arriving in New York February 18, 1947, on the S.S. Ernie Pyle. She was destined to AUGUST H. JACOBSON and also listed Mr. and Mrs. HERBERT TAURIN as the names of the passengers, or other persons, whom she travelled with. Her Certificate of Arrival was issued May 14, 1947, using the name GAIDA PORMANIS.

In her Statement of Facts to be used in making her Declaration of Intention, GAIDA PORMANIS stated her occupation was millinery, age 26, complexion light, eyes blue, hair blonde, height 5'4", weight 122, nationality Latvian, no visible scars or marks. She was married to VITOLDS PORMANIS at Riga, Latvia, July 18, 1944, and presently resides with her husband.

RESIDENCE

Subject appeared at the Detroit Office on June 2, 1948, and informed that he is currently residing at 13237 Mark Twain, Detroit, telephone VHorizon 8-3670.

EMPLOYMENT

WILLIAM A. MORIARTY, Warehouse Manager, General Motors Corporation Truck and Coach Division, Parts Department, 3925 Vermont, Detroit, made available Subject's employment record on November 24, 1950. This reflected he was hired June 1, 1947, as a Stock Handler and is presently employed as a Counterman or Salesman in the Parts Department. Under the caption "Education" it was shown that he had attended the University of Riga Law School from 1937 to 1943 when he graduated. In addition, Subject has taken correspondence courses in Russian, German, Norwegian and Latvian. He attended a Sanitary Inspection School at Riga, graduating in 1939.

(DE 66-1960)

In his Application for Employment, which was signed on VITOLE FORMAN, May 31, 1947, Subject listed the following on his previous employment:

Last Employment	Dates Employed	Kind of Business	Kind of Work	Business or Industry
City Dept. of Riga, Riga, Latvia	Sept. 1938 to Oct. 1939	General Office Clark	Accounting of Wages	Accounting
Health Dept. of Riga Riga, Latvia	Oct. 1939 to Dec. 1942	Sanitary Inspector	Inspection of Hotels, bars, food markets, etc.	Reported to Germany
German Railroad Bruck an der Mur, Austria	Aug. 1944 to April, 1945	Posting Clerk	Posting and Registering of railroad material	The end of the war
U.S.A. Esslingen, Germany	Aug. 1945 to Jan. 1947	Transportation Officer	Supervising work of U.S.A. garages and vehicles	Immigration to U.S.A.

Mr. MORIARITY stated that FORMAN had secured his employment at General Motors Corporation through JOHN STANTON, a janitor who has been employed by the company over ten years. MORIARITY stated that STANTON is a white Russian and strongly anti-Communist. According to MORIARITY, FORMAN has been a satisfactory employee and has expressed himself as being anti-Communist.

MORIARITY advised that it was his understanding that Subject's wife has a millinery job which causes her to travel on the road visiting places such as New York City.

NATIONALISTIC SYNTHESSES, TENDENCIES AND ACTIVITIES

Confidential Informant Detroit T-1, of known reliability, another government agency which conducts security type investigations, stated that on July 26, 1950, ANDRI DZINS, Camp Administrator, Latvian D.P. Camp, Esslingen, Germany, was interviewed relative to his knowledge of Subject. DZINS stated that Subject joined the Latvian Student Fraternity "Latgenda" in January, 1938. At that time Subject was a sports writer and operated communist. Mr. TIRGANDIS, Subject's father, was a member of the Latvian Social Democratic Party, but belonged to the group within this party that leaned to the extreme left.

(S 66-1960)

In approximately February, 1940, BERZING saw an article in a Latvian newspaper written by Subject which seemed to condemn the Latvians for their way of life. Subject was questioned by the Fraternity "Lettonia" concerning this article and, when it became apparent that he was lying, he was expelled for six months. In June, 1940, after the occupation of Latvia by the Russians, a sports newspaper carried an article by Subject which praised the present type of sports initiated by the Russians as more healthful and graceful than the former degrading methods of sport undertakings under the free Latvian Government. Subject continued to praise the actions of the Russian occupation and abuse the supporters of the free Latvian Government. Subject also was an editor for the Latvian Communist newspaper "Cīta", during the Russian occupation. In July, 1940, Subject was permanently expelled from the Fraternity.

Confidential Informant Detroit T-1 further advised that VILJOLDS PORMANIS, 8850th Labor Service Company, Koenigswinter, Germany, was interviewed on August 17, 1950, concerning his knowledge of Subject. PORMANIS stated that he has known Subject since 1938 when Subject joined the Latvian student group "Lettonia". At that time PORMANIS was attending the University of Riga, Latvia, studying engineering and law. PORMANIS was a normal member of the student group until the Russians invaded Latvia in June, 1940, at which time he began writing articles for the Communist sponsored newspaper, "Cīta". According to PORMANIS, Subject was expelled from the Latvian student group, "Lettonia", in July or August, 1940, for collaborating with the Russians and writing pro-Communist articles for the newspaper "Cīta". PORMANIS added that Subject contacted him in the latter part of July, 1940, and stated that he had been and was at that time, a member of the Communist Youth Movement in Latvia.

Confidential Informant Detroit T-1 furnished an Affidavit as follows:

"Latvian Student Fraternity
'LETTONIA'

"Koenigswinter,
July 29th, 1949

To whom it may concern.
Subject's statement about VILJOLDS PORMANIS

We, the undersigned, members of the board of 'Lettonia' certify, that VILJOLDS PORMANIS, born on February 4, 1919, joined the Latvian Student Fraternity 'Lettonia' in January, 1938, as a law student of the University of Riga. In February 1940, in accordance with the

"Chairman of the Committee of Latvian Sport, he was arrested for 6 months and subsequently sentenced to 10 years imprisonment and was confined when in July 1940 during deportations to Russia. He was released from the 'Central of Prisoner' and returned to Latvia in 1953 under the name 'Viktor Marts'. In this period he worked for communist government, thus abusing his former political connections. In 1953 he was given the position of 'Chairman of Lettonia' he was expelled from communism".

/s/ JAKOB AKERS

"JAKOB AKERS, born on September 27, 1909, Lawyer, MP Camp Seelingen Adminstrator, residing in Seelingen, 33-5 Stuttgarter Street.

/s/ VITOLDS PORNĀKIS

"VITOLDS PORNĀKIS, born on October 10, 1911, Lawyer, IHC Legal Employee, residing in Seelingen, 75 Klemmung street

"We, the undersigned, members of Latvian Student Fraternity 'Lettonia' certify that following are facts concerning VITOLDS PORNĀKIS, former member of 'Lettonia'.

"1. We have personally seen and read in July 1940 an article in the sport newspaper, which was printed by communists during the occupation of Latvia. In the article the sport activities in independent Latvia were compared with those during the occupation by Russians. In that article VITOLDS PORNĀKIS glorified the communistic government and its attitude to sports and at the same time abusing the former Latvian independent government and its supporters. The article fully expressed PORNĀKIS' political opinion.

"2. We know, that in the years 1940/1941, during the Russian occupation of Latvia, VITOLDS PORNĀKIS has been a member of the Editor Board of the official communist party newspaper 'Cīta' in Latvia.

/s/ ANDRĒjs PĀRKĀRS

"ANDRĒjs PĀRKĀRS,

"Born on March 31, 1919, IHC Area 2 Headquarters employee, residing in Seelingen, 33-4 Stuttgarter Street.

/s/ R. LĀZĀRS

"RĀZĀRS LĀZĀRS,

"Born on October 6, 1914, Graduate engineer, residing in Seelingen, 38 Holtke street.

(US 46-1960)

IN "PARIS E. ILLIE"

"PARIS ILLIE" ILLIE,

"born on January 4, 1911, Business Manager of Latvian Newspaper 'Latvija', residing in Koenigsen, 7-9 Tannenberg street.

IN "VILJAS OTLAKA"

"VILJAS OTLAKA,"

"born on July 2, 1914, Businessman, residing in Koenigsen, 3-5 Tannenberg street.

IN "VILJAS SLINE"

"VILJAS SLINE,"

"born on April 18, 1912, Legal Counsellor of ILO Assembly Centre in Koenigsen, residing in Koenigsen, 34 Schlesier street.

IN "VILJAS VILKUS"

"VILJAS VILKUS,"

"born on May 29, 1912, former Secretary of Appeal Court in Riga, residing in Koenigsen, 4-6 Tannenberg street."

CREDIT AND CRIMINAL

Records of the Merchants Credit Bureau, Detroit, reflected that Subject had come from Koenigsen, Germany, where he had resided at 26 Martin Street. It was indicated that he had formerly been employed as a lawyer for the ILO Organization at Koenigsen, Germany, prior to 1947. His wife, GAIDA, was shown to be employed as a hat designer at Millgriss, Fisher Building, Detroit. Subject was shown to have resided at 13237 Markt Street since December 21, 1949, and previously at 140 Second, and also at 19449 Paul, Detroit. The report reflected no derogatory information. It was shown that Subject claimed an account with the National Bank of Detroit but that no record thereof was found at the Main Office or the Clifford-Bagley Office. In August, 1948, Subject gave as a reference a friend Mrs. CLARA CHAMBERS, 140 Second.

The records of the Michigan Merchants Credit Association contained no record of the subject.

The records of the Identification Bureau, Wayne County, Sheriff's Office, Detroit, and the Bureau of Records, Detroit Police Department, were checked with negative results on September 17 and November 14, 1955.

- F B I D I N G -